

STATE POLICE REPORT

CALENDAR YEAR—1949

FOR STATE HIGHWAY

REPORT—FISCAL YEAR 49-50

September 1, 1950

To the Chairman and Members of the
State Highway Commission
Dover, Delaware

Gentlemen:

I respectfully submit herewith a report of the activities of the State Police Division for the calendar year 1949.

The report includes the important items in each of the State Police Divisions.

The excellent support and assistance rendered by the members of the State Highway Commission is sincerely appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Colonel Harry S. Shew,
Superintendent

ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

The first half of the twentieth century is now history and the year, 1949, marked another milestone in the progress of the Delaware State Police. Since the Department was officially created by an act of legislation in 1923, it has expanded until today it is ranked as one of the best State Police departments in the country.

Proper organization is important to a police department, for without it, there can be no great degree of efficiency. An efficient agency is likely to have the confidence of the public, such confidence being particularly necessary in the operation of any police department.

Administration is management and leadership which results in a coordination of effort. From the following organization chart, it will be noted that there are three main divisions within the Department: the Bureau of Criminal Investigation, the Training and Personnel Division, and the Bureau of Traffic. These divisions have jurisdiction over the field units or troops relative to the activities with which each division is concerned. The diagram shows clearly the lines of authority with no overlapping of work.

The Commanding Officer of this Department was honored this year when Governor Elbert N. Carvel affixed his signature to the first measure passed by the last General Assembly. This bill called for amendment to the law relating to the State Police by the addition of the phrase: "Provided that the Superintendent of said State Police shall hold the rank of Colonel and shall be so classified by the said Department."

The efficiency of the State Police in coping with crime was highlighted when a routine investigation unearthed one of the most gruesome crimes ever to be perpetrated in this State. The case, later to be known as the "Lonely Hearts" murder case, involved a mother and her three sons who lured an old man through a "Lonely Hearts" Club to her home for the purported purpose of murdering him for a few paltry dollars. All eyes of the nation were focused upon the State of Delaware for the eventual outcome of this case, which resulted in convictions for all those connected with the crime.

Delaware was again put in the "limelight" when on October 26, 1949, eight armed convicts broke out of the New Castle County Workhouse, setting off a manhunt in which

all of the law enforcement agencies of the city, county, State and nearby states were immediately involved. The manner in which all eight convicts were re-captured reflects the effectiveness of the cooperation among police authorities all over the country.

Six veteran State Police officers retired on pension this year; however, the force was augmented by the appointment of thirteen (13) new troopers. The Department consisted of 120 uniformed men as of December 31, 1949.

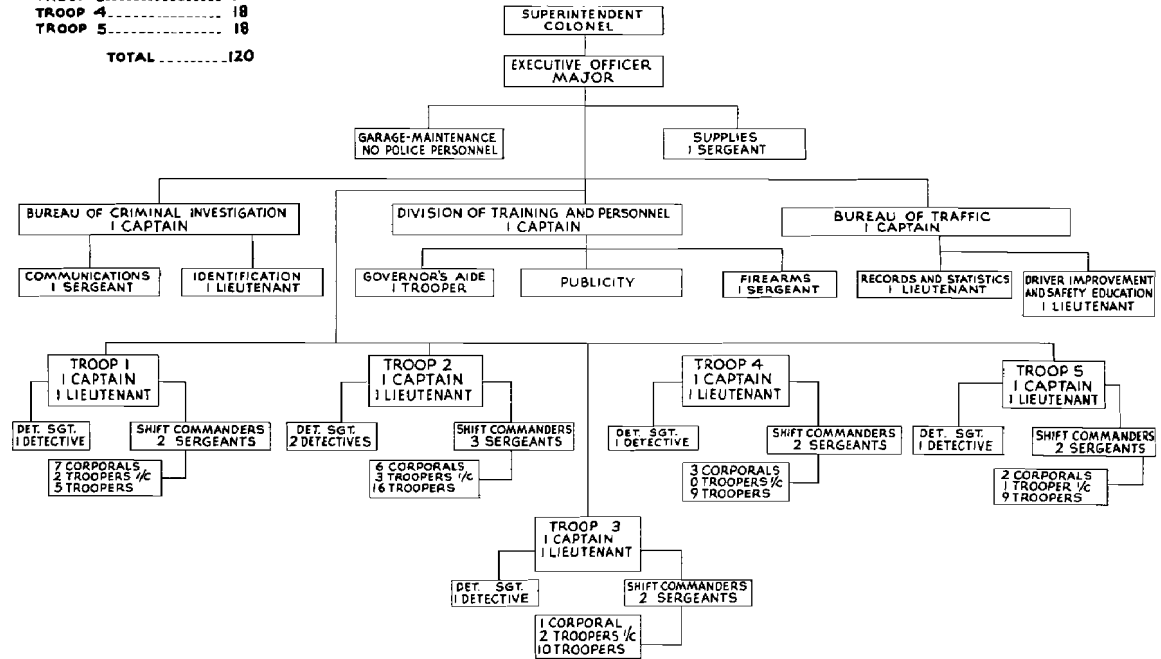
ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL

HEADQUARTERS	12
TROOP 1	20
TROOP 2	33
TROOP 3	19
TROOP 4	18
TROOP 5	18
TOTAL	120

DELAWARE STATE POLICE

ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL CHART

NOVEMBER 1, 1949



COMMUNICATIONS

Through the advancement of the art of radio communications since the close of World War II, many new uses have been developed for this type of equipment. The Department has kept abreast of these changes by constantly modifying present equipment in order that it may be used to a greater advantage. One example of the application of these advancements can be observed at Troop '5', Bridgeville. By re-locating the transmitting equipment and taking advantage of the scientific advancement in radio wave propagation, together with remote control operation, greater communication coverage is being obtained at present than heretofore. A similar application of this principal has also been applied to Troop '1' at Penny Hill. Since the service rendered from the other three troops has been of the highest quality, the system as a whole can be considered as rating among the most efficient being used by any police organization. Communication points with the Maryland State Police, have been increased from one to three different Stations.

The "Pack Set," a small portable radio that can be used at any location and is most convenient to carry, has proven itself a real asset in investigative work. In the past year, these units have been used in wooded areas, aeroplanes and the emergency boat. They enable the officer to be in constant contact with his Troop or temporary control point while a search is in progress for missing or wanted persons.

The Communications Division conducted a School concerning the use of emergency equipment. The classes were small so that all details of the use of this equipment could be understood by each individual officer. A problem was given at the end of each class enabling each student to actually put the equipment into operation.

Communications statistics follow:

	Year ending Dec. 31, 1948	Year ending Dec. 31, 1949
Radio messages sent	45,673	47,629
Radio messages received	155,551	203,627
Teletype messages sent	1,301	1,346
Teletype messages received	27,700	24,850
Fixed radio stations	5	5
Radio equipped vehicles	59	63
Coordinated services	8	8



TROOPERS IN EMERGENCY BOAT KEEP IN CONSTANT CONTACT WITH THE TROOP

TRAFFIC DIVISION

Delaware highways which are considered to be among the finest in the nation, are patrolled 24 hours daily by the State Police. The responsibility consists of protecting 3910 miles of rural highways, as well as giving assistance to local city and town police departments, except the city of Wilmington, in accident investigation and traffic law enforcement. In the rural area there are 509.35 miles of primary roads, 1,217.66 miles of secondary roads and 2,183.01 of local roads. The primary roads carry a large volume of traffic, a great percentage of which is out-of-State transient travel. Traffic accident statistics reflect that certain roads need constant patrol strength during certain hours in an effort to reduce accidents. Last year (1949) the State Police patrolled 2,359,558 miles, which indicates most roads were patrolled very well.

Despite an estimated 11% increase in miles travelled, as well as a 9% increase in new car registration in this State, no increase in motor vehicle fatalities was reported. This was accomplished in the face of a nationally rising tide of motor vehicle deaths.

MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

There were reported to the State Police during the year 2,729 traffic accidents. In each instance, an on-the-scene investigation was conducted. The objective of these investigations was:

1. To determine if a violation of the law caused the accident, and if so, to gather evidence to prosecute the violator.
2. To gather data to be used in the prevention of future accidents.

As a result of the first objective, 1,649 persons were prosecuted for accident creating violations. Of this total, approximately 94% were convicted.

The second objective resulted in information being disseminated to the Traffic Engineer's office for use in establishing further safeguards, to educational authorities for use in properly directing their safety activities and to patrol officers to direct their enforcement activities.

Some of the pertinent data reveals that in the total of 2,729 accidents, there were 62 which resulted in 71 persons

being killed; 772 in which 1,133 persons were injured; and 1,895 which resulted in property damage only.

The death rate was 4% lower than during 1948.

Other data giving a graphical and detailed analysis can be obtained upon request to the Traffic Division.

TRAFFIC LAW ENFORCEMENT

During the year, there were 11,838 arrests made for violations of the traffic laws by the State Police. Of these, 11,594, or 98%, resulted in convictions.

Since the primary purpose of traffic enforcement is to prevent accidents, the greatest attention was given to accident-producing violations. As a result, 73%, or 8,276 of the total number of arrests were for dangerous moving violations.

The annual enforcement index which is the ratio between convictions for dangerous moving violations and the number of fatal and personal injury accidents was 14.

The list of offenses and the number of arrests for each is as follows:

ARRESTS MADE FOR DANGEROUS MOVING VIOLATIONS	
	Year '49
Operating under the influence	213
Speed violations	4092
Right-of-way	226
Wrong side of road	232
Reckless driving	557
Improper passing	497
Failure to signal	79
Improper turning	215
Disregard stop sign and signal	1216
Other sign and signal violations	40
Assault and battery by motor vehicle	20
Manslaughter	13
Miscellaneous dangerous moving violations	191

ARRESTS MADE FOR EQUIPMENT VIOLATIONS	
	Year '49
Light violations	40
Brake violations	335
Flare violations	321
Other equipment violations	39

ARRESTS MADE FOR PEDESTRIAN VIOLATIONS	
Pedestrian intoxication	304
Other pedestrian violations	17

ARRESTS MADE FOR LICENSE AND REGISTRATION VIOLATIONS

Driver license violations.....	746
Registration and title violations	165

ARRESTS MADE FOR MISCELLANEOUS VIOLATIONS

Parking violations	101
Oversize and overweight violations	1965
Leaving scene and failure to report accident.....	102
Operating motor vehicle without consent.....	34
Others	78

Written reprimands, or notices of violations, were issued for unsafe driving practices, faulty equipment, or improper license or registration in 128,145 instances. 2,780 reprimands were issued to pedestrians for unsafe walking practices.

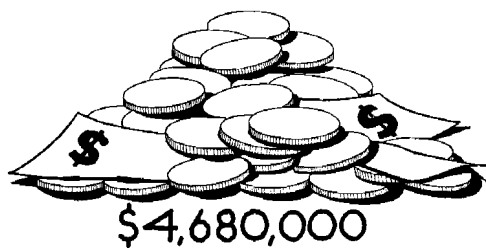
The total number of arrests and reprimands was 138,983. Since some operators were warned for more than one violation, it is estimated that at least 90,000 safety educational contacts were made with motorists and pedestrians during the year.

In cases where equipment was faulty to the extent that it was unsafe for operation, an "inspection notice" was issued to the motorist which required the vehicle to be presented to the State Inspection Lane for a complete safety inspection or be penalized by suspension of registration. Notices issued were 1,120.

School Bus Inspection

For the past three years, the State Police in cooperation with the Department of Public Instruction, have conducted a school bus inspection. This inspection included every bus carrying students to Delaware schools and covered not only the legal requirements but also regulations set forth by the Department of Public Instruction. As a result of this 3-year program, the buses with the exception of a few minor instances were in excellent condition.

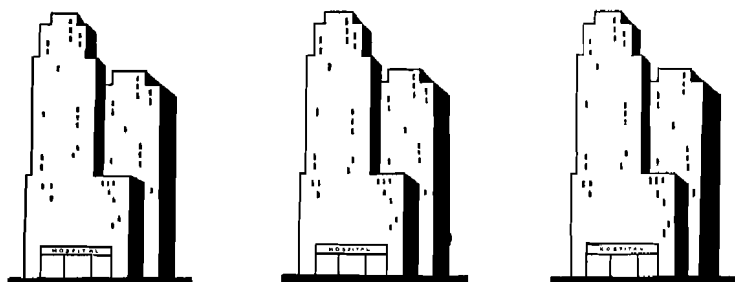
THE ECONOMIC LOSS OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS IN
RURAL DELAWARE IN 1949 WAS AT LEAST



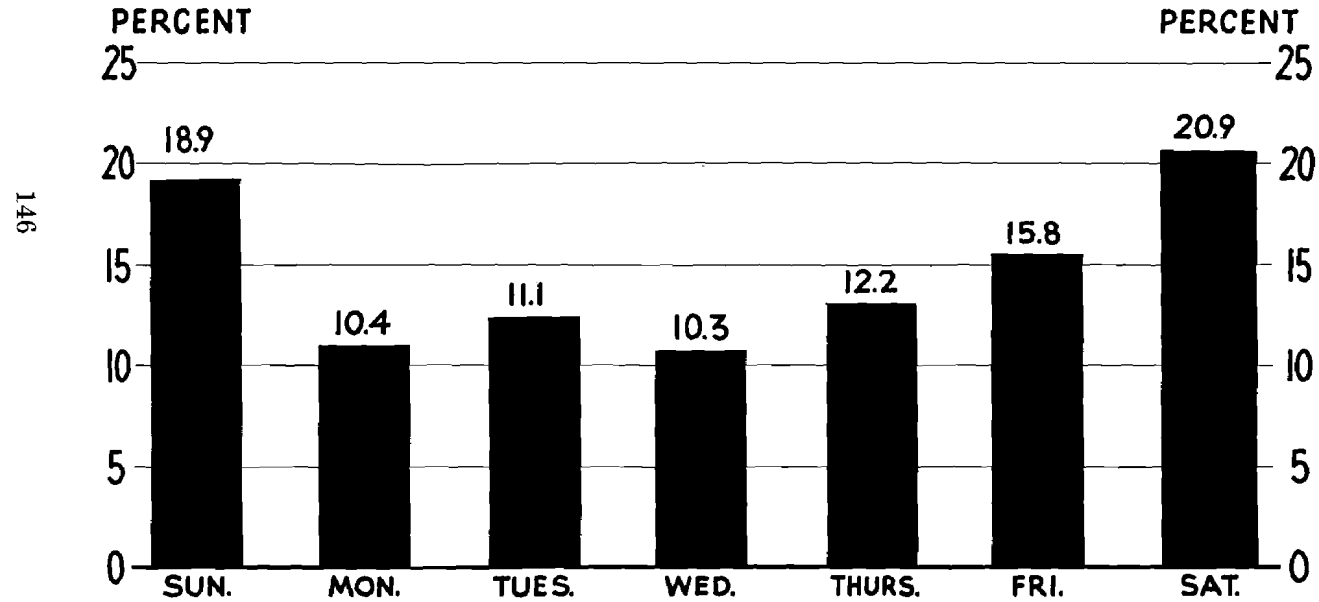
THE PERSONS KILLED IN RURAL DELAWARE
IN 1949 WOULD HAVE FILLED 2 BUSES



THE ONES INJURED WOULD HAVE FILLED THE
BIGGEST HOSPITAL IN DELAWARE 3 TIMES



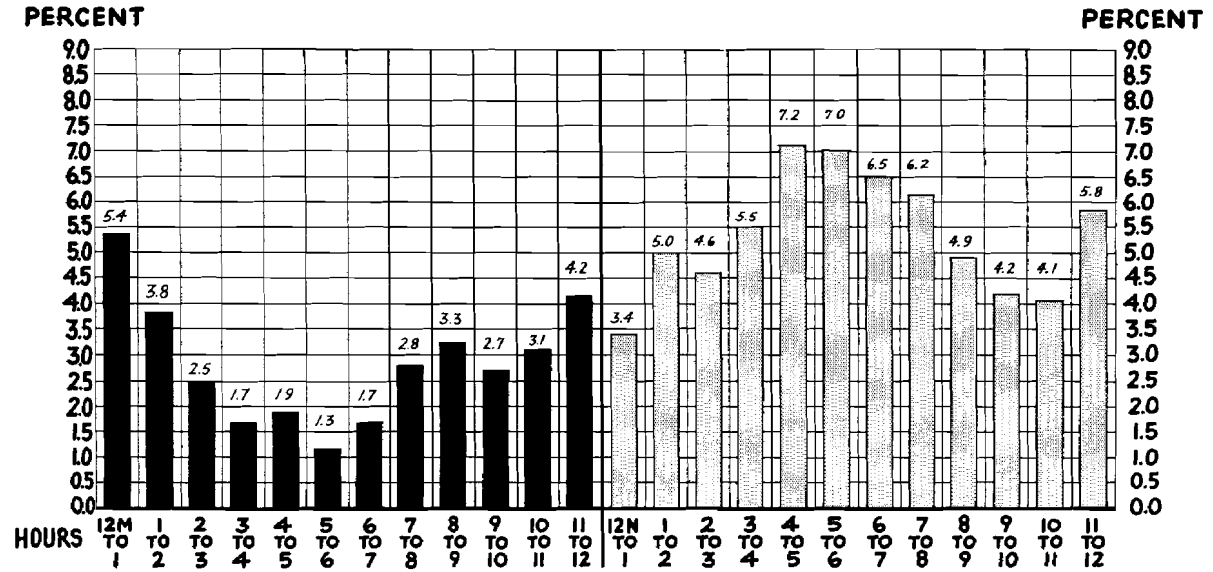
RURAL FATAL MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS
By
DAY OF THE WEEK



RURAL FATAL MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS BY HOUR OF THE DAY

■ A.M.

▨ P.M.





THIS MANY PEDESTRIANS WERE
KILLED IN 1949: SIXTEEN

THEY WERE

CROSSING NOT AT INTERSECTION.....	7
WALKING IN ROADWAY.....	4
CROSSING AT INTERSECTION.....	2
COMING FROM BEHIND PARKED CARS.....	1
WORKING ON VEHICLE IN ROADWAY.....	1
UNKNOWN.....	1

CRIMINAL DIVISION

Following is the tenth annual report of the Delaware State Police, Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Identification, covering the calendar year, January 1, 1949 to December 31, 1949:

Crime in rural Delaware increased 11% over the 1948 figure. A total of 4,639 cases were investigated by the State Police, of which 86% were cleared through either arrest or investigation.

Auto thefts increased with a total of 88 cars being stolen in rural Delaware, with 85 of them being recovered by the end of the calendar year.

In an effort to prevent crime the State Police continued to conduct nightly checks of business places throughout the State. This policy has proven of great value, with the frequent arrest of persons committing crimes by officers on patrol. The continuous surveillance of business places has a tendency to prevent criminals who are bent on breaking into a building, or dwelling, to realize that the police may arrive at any time to check the building.

The type of efficient criminal investigation, selection of evidence, road blocks, and apprehensions, is outlined in the following case. This case is but one of many handled by the Department, and definitely proves the value of trained men in investigative work.

In rapid succession from July 31, 1949 to August 5, 1949, a series of safe burglaries were reported from the lower part of the State. In each instance the "modus operandi" was much the same. It was learned that the intruders wore gloves, when necessary a brace and bit was used to bore holes in making the entry easier, and the safe was invariably loaded on a vehicle and taken away. When the safes were found it was learned that they had all been opened in the same manner.

It was apparent from the initial investigation that these burglaries had been committed by the same persons. The State Police started an investigation to learn the identity of the "Safe Crackers." As clues at the crime scenes were meager, a search was conducted throughout the countryside. A report from a hardware dealer describing a stranger desiring to buy a brace and bit was investigated. On August 5, the sharp-eyed proprietor of a roadside fruit

stand was questioned about strangers who bore a marked resemblance to each other. They had stopped at his stand and eaten some fruit, stating that they were going fishing. The informant seeing no fishing gear became suspicious. He was able to give the officers a description of the men and the truck they were operating. Many such bits of information were received, carefully examined and filed. Piece by piece they were fitted together to form the basis of further investigation.

There were several checks in the safes which had been burglarized, and the State Police, assuming that the thieves would try to cash some of them, notified the banks in that area to be on the lookout for them.

On August 8, a stranger tried to cash a check in a Dover bank, but left, taking the check with him, when an attempt was made to verify it. Police were alerted and an officer apprehended the man as he tried to cash the same check at another bank. In his possession when arrested were other checks taken from the rifled safes.

Still missing was the truck which had been reported at a local chain store, where another check had been cashed. Road blocks were established, and Troopers were called in and dispatched to strategic areas, keeping in constant radio communication with the control center. At about 2:30 p.m. a Trooper sighted the vehicle near Harrington, Delaware and gave chase. The driver turned onto a dirt road and there abandoned the truck and escaped into a dense thicket. The area was promptly surrounded by Troopers who searched the woods throughout the night. The following morning, weakened by a night spent in the swampy and mosquito infested woods, the subject of the search was apprehended after a short chase, when he entered the town of Houston.

These men were identified as William P. and Herbert Napier of Pittsburg, Kentucky. They and their families had been following a nomadic existence from the time they had left Kentucky until their activities were interrupted by arrest. The trailer used as a home by both families was located at a gas station near Ocean City, Maryland.

Both of these men were found to have criminal records in West Virginia and Kentucky. Their plan had been to make several swift raids on business places in Sussex County, pocket the proceeds, and move on to another location.

Subsequently, both men were convicted and sentenced to serve six months in the Sussex County Prison and to receive ten (10) lashes each.

Modern police methods make the role of the transgressor doubly hard, and the certainty of justice greater.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1949

Class 1	7.3% increase
Class 2	32.8% increase
Class 3	10.7% increase

CASES CLEARED

	<u>Class 1</u>	<u>Class 2</u>	<u>Class 3</u>	<u>Average</u>
1949	62.6%	86.2%	95.3%	85.7%
1948	63 %	92 %	95 %	86 %

VALUE OF PROPERTY STOLEN AND RECOVERED

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1948</u>
Total value of property stolen	\$139,574.73	\$150,404.01
Total value of property recovered	81,315.36	97,081.50
(a) Recovered (Delaware State Police) ..	32,922.00	48,522.10
(b) Recovered (other jurisdictions)	21,195.00	11,700.00
(c) Recovered otherwise	12,800.00	13,623.00
Per cent of stolen property recovered	58.0%	64.5%
Value of property recovered for other other jurisdictions	56,960.00	67,196.00
Total value of property recovered by Delaware State Police	104,280.36	138,704.50

RELEASED TO OTHER AUTHORITIES

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1948</u>
Army	29	2
Connecticut	2	0
Court of Common Pleas	3	5
Delaware Colony	3	3
Dover Police Department	0	6
Family Court	0	18
Federal	9	15
Ferris School	11	7
Florida	1	1
Georgia	1	0
Health Authorities	1	6
Illinois	1	0
Immigration Authorities	4	0
Juvenile Authorities	51	23
Kent County Jail	4	2
Kruse School	5	0
Lewes Police Department	0	1
Magistrate's Office	1	0
Maryland	34	47

Massachusetts	1	0
Milford Police Department	0	1
Navy	1	5
Newark Police Department	0	1
New Castle Police Department	2	0
New Castle County Workhouse	5	0
New Jersey	1	4
New York	1	0
North Carolina	1	0
Parents	35	69
Parole Officer	1	0
Pennsylvania	34	22
Seaford Police Department	1	0
Smyrna Police Department	0	1
State Hospital	5	3
State Liquor Commission	0	1
Sussex County Prison	4	0
Texas	1	0
Virginia	5	3
Welfare Home	2	0
Wilmington Police Department	34	67
Woodshaven School	8	4
	<hr/> 302	<hr/> 317

DISPOSITION OF CRIMINAL ARRESTS

The following are dispositions of arrests exclusive of persons arrested for more than one offense, released to other authorities, released to juvenile authorities, etc.

NOTE: In many cases, one person is responsible for more than one offense and is sentenced for all offenses committed at one trial, thereby causing a difference in the number of arrests made.

996 Defendants had fines imposed totaling \$15,622
177 Defendants were sentenced to 627 years, 6 months, and 2 days.
Five life sentences are included.
131 Defendants were sentenced in default of fine
7 Defendants had sentence suspended
140 Defendants had cases Nolle Prossed by Attorney General
54 Defendants had cases withdrawn by complainant
58 Defendants had cases dismissed by Magistrate
52 Defendants had cases dismissed by Family Court
25 Material Witnesses were dismissed
15 Defendants dismissed by Court of Common Pleas
2 Defendants dismissed by U. S. Treasury Dept.
120 Persons paroled for 76 years, 3 months
34 Persons paroled for an indefinite period
33 Persons committed to State Institutions
302 Persons released to other authorities
Restitutions made to the amount of \$972.16

AUTO THEFTS AND RECOVERIES

Thefts increased during 1949, with 88 thefts, as compared to 75 thefts during 1948.

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1948</u>
Number of car thefts (rural Del.).....	88	75
Total recovered (Item 1)	85	64
(a) Recovered (State Police)	63	37
(b) Recovered (other jurisdictions)	15	12
(c) Recovered otherwise	7	15
Per cent of stolen cars recovered (rural Del.).....	96.5%	85%
Automobiles recovered for other jurisdictions.....	38	39
Automobiles recovered for Wilmington Police Dept.	29	36
Total cars recovered by Delaware State Police....	152	112

AUTO THEFTS BY TROOP

<u>TROOP</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>Total</u>
Thefts	4	27	10	28	19	88
Recovered (State Police)	4	19	9	22	16	70
Cleared by Arrest	3	5	7	15	11	41
Recovered for Wilmington Police Dept...	12	15	1	1	0	29
Recovered (other jurisdictions)	10	13	3	5	7	38
Recovered by other jurisdictions.....	0	5	1	6	3	15
Cars remaining stolen	0	3	0	0	0	3

OFFENSES COMMITTED BY JUVENILES & MINORS

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1948</u>
Accessory to Murder	1	0
Aiding & Abetting	0	1
Adultery	0	2
Assault	7	3
Assault & Battery	17	21
Bastardy	1	1
Break, & Enter, & Larceny	72	70
Carrying Concealed Deadly Weapon	3	3
Disorderly Conduct	29	30
Disturbing the Peace	0	1
Drunk & Disorderly	5	1
Federal	17	13
Forgery	6	1
Fugitive	39	37
Gambling	8	3
Indecent Exposure	2	2
Incorrigible	1	3
Larceny	84	80
Larceny Motor Vehicle	7	6
Malicious Mischief	13	14
Material Witness	4	16
Miscellaneous	9	14
Murder	2	0
Non-Support	0	2
Parole Violator	1	2
Prostitution	0	1
Receiving Stolen Goods	0	2

Rape	0	1
Robbery	7	0
Runaways	48	54
Threats	0	3
Toying Female Minor	2	2
Trespassing	7	32
Vagrancy	1	7
Violation Age Consent	1	0
	<hr/> 394	<hr/> 428

MINOR & JUVENILE ARRESTS BY AGE

<u>Age</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1948</u>
8-11	6	18
12	8	16
13	24	15
14	22	31
15	50	54
16	61	64
17	58	44
18	54	58
19	46	79
20	65	49
	<hr/> 394	<hr/> 428

NIGHT PATROLS

In 1947 the State Police began the checking of business places during the hours of darkness. This has resulted in the apprehension of thieves while in the act of committing crimes; as well as serving as a deterrent to the criminally minded. Successful apprehensions were made of thieves in six instances while patrolling and checking during 1949.

Following is a table showing the number of places checked.

<u>TROOP</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
#1	35,788
#2	30,919
#3	14,625
#4	8,111
#5	8,042
TOTAL	<hr/> 97,485

LARCENY

Larceny increased 8% during 1949, with 63.1% of the cases being cleared.

	<u>1949</u>		<u>1948</u>
Cases	754	Cases	698
Cleared	63.1%	Cleared	61.4%

BY TROOPS

TROOP	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Number of cases	129	183	129	177	136	754
Number of cases cleared	63	80	105	119	109	476
Percentage cleared	48.8	43.7	81.3	67.2	80.1	63.1

BURGLARIES

This offense increased 14% over 1947, with 344 cases being reported as compared to 302 in 1947. A total of 49% of cases were cleared through investigation or arrest.

Cases	1947	Cases	1948
Cleared	344	Cleared	302
	49.1%		53.9%

DELAWARE STATE POLICE

CRIMINAL STATISTICS 1949

UNIFORM CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSES	NUMBER AND DISPOSITION OF OFFENSES KNOWN TO THE POLICE							
	OFFENSES KNOWN TO THE POLICE		NUMBER OF OFFENSES CLEARED BY ARREST		NUMBER OF OFFENSES CLEARED BY INVESTIGATION		NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED	
	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948
PART I CLASSES								
1. Criminal homicide:								
(a) Murder and manslaughter	18	14	15	9	3		16	9
(b) Manslaughter by negligence	1		1				1	
2. Rape	1	18		4	14			8
3. Robbery	19	23	2	4	9	13	7	8
4. Aggravated assault	39	43	38	33	2	5	38	49
5. Burglary—breaking and/or entering	344	302	96	100	73	63	147	190
6. Larceny—Theft (except auto theft):								
(a) \$75 and over in value	229	261	56	64	36	35	66	94
(b) Under \$75 in value	525	437	128	127	256	203	180	204
7. Auto theft	88	94	41	32	39	51	27	24
Total, Part I Classes	1264	1192	377	373	415	387	482	586
PART II CLASSES								
8. Forgery and counterfeiting	37	46	18	25	6	20	34	38
9. Embezzlement and fraud	47	40	25	16	17	22	29	54
10. Stolen property—buying, receiving, possessing	4	1	4	1			16	6
11. Prostitution and commercial vice	1	3	1	3			1	7
12. Sex offenses (except 3 and 11)	40	43	23	28	7	13	29	35
13. Federal Violations	51	13	14	6	15	5	43	26
14. Fugitive	196	118	102	69	75	56	125	118
Total, Part II Classes	356	264	187	148	120	96	277	284
PART III CLASSES								
15. Other assaults	380	379	198	181	183	210	253	254
16. Weapons—carrying, possessing, etc.	20	15	19	14	1	1	31	25
17. Offenses against the family and children	27	30	20	16	7	13	45	73
18. Narcotic drug laws		1		1			2	2
19. Liquor laws								
20. Drunkenness	315	260	124	148	256	112	144	112
21. Disorderly conduct	577	456	160	121	338	289	293	290
22. Vagrancy	27	8	24	9	2		54	63
23. Gambling	69	24	58	16	10	7	82	50
24. Mining persons and run-aways	197	174	18	13	143	151	47	52
25. Insanity cases handled	24	25	10	8	14	17	2	2
26. Suicide cases investigated	50	53			44	52		
27. Sudden deaths investigated	75	75			71	71		
28. Noncriminal complaints investigated	20	52	1	1	19	51		
29. All other offenses not listed	1238	1174	97	115	1061	983	193	274
Total, Part III Classes	3019	2726	729	643	2149	1957	1146	1197
GRAND TOTAL	4639	4182	1293	1164	2684	2440	1905	2067

*Include offenses reported not cleared other month, cleared this month

TROOP	BY TROOPS					Total
	1	2	3	4	5	
Number of cases	63	127	42	53	59	344
Number of cases cleared	22	54	28	25	40	169
Percentage cleared	34.9	42.5	66.6	47.1	67.7	49.1

HOMOCIDE INVESTIGATION

State Police are called upon to investigate all sudden deaths to determine the possibility of foul play or criminal negligence. Nineteen (19) homicide cases and one (1) justifiable homicide* were investigated, as compared to fourteen (14) homicide cases during 1948.

(1949)			
Troop	Cases	Cleared	Arrests
#1	1	1	1
#2	4	2	2
#3	3	3	4
#4	8	8	8
#5	3	2	2
	19	16	17

* Under "National System of Crime Reporting," Justifiable Homicide is (a) killing by an officer in line of duty, (b) a killing by a civilian of an armed robber.

BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION

Every criminal during the actual commission of a crime by stealth, is plagued by the fear of being caught in the act. Because of the pressure of this ever present fear, he operates under a nervous strain and a feeling of necessity for haste. This causes him to leave evidence through which he may be apprehended.

Fingerprints at the scene of a crime are the first evidence searched for and the best evidence with which to confront the criminal when he is apprehended. The State Police employ the latest scientific methods developed for the "lifting" of latent fingerprints, and several cases each year are solved by this type of evidence. During 1949 fingerprint evidence was definitely associated with the perpetrators of crimes in nine cases.

Fingerprint evidence was employed in obtaining a quick confession from a suspect who had burglarized a large self service market near Wilmington. The suspect was convinced that his fingerprints on the window at the point of entrance were sufficient to cause his conviction.

A murder case which occurred in Hockessin in September, 1949, will soon come to trial, and the evidence which is to be submitted will be augmented by latent fingerprint evidence that will aid in establishing the guilt of the criminal.



"ONE-ARMED-BANDITS" SEIZED IN A SERIES OF RAIDS

IDENTIFICATION STATISTICS

Wanted Circulars Received	1233
Wanted Circulars Cancelled	1255
Personal Fingerprint Cards Received	3
Applicant Fingerprint Cards Received	35
Criminal Fingerprint Cards Received	2898
Troop #1	161
Troop #2	282
Troop #3	297
Troop #4	421
Troop #5	396
New Castle County Workhouse	620
Sussex County Prison	351
Bridgeville Police Department	3
Dover Police Department	261
Milford Police Department	1
Newark Police Department	22
New Castle Police Department	1
Rehoboth Police Department	36
Ferris Industrial School	45
Sheriff's Office, Dover, Delaware	1
Criminal Fingerprints by Race and Sex	2898
White Male	1378
Black Male	1326
White Female	77
Black Female	117
Criminals with previous records	1746
Rogues' Gallery	626
White Race	320
Colored Race	306
Indices checked for other investigating agencies	1838
Photographic Service	3705

Department Name	Negatives Developed	Photos Printed	Photostatic Copies Printed
Headquarters	269	982	135
Troop #1	145	114	0
Troop #2	279	271	0
Troop #3	221	262	31
Troop #4	364	310	30
Troop #5	165	144	28
TOTALS	1416	2065	224

Stolen Firearms	687
Firearms Registered	102

TOTAL IDENTIFICATION DATA ON FILE AS OF DEC. 31, 1949

Criminal Fingerprints	51,362
Criminals with Previous Records	24,410
Personal Identification Fingerprints	16,504
Firearms Registered	2,713
Rogues' Gallery: White Race	8,886
Colored Race	7,373

DIVISION OF TRAINING AND PERSONNEL

The Division of Training and Personnel was raised to the status of a major division this year, being administered by a Director holding the rank of Captain. There are three subdivisions under this Division: the Firearms Division, the Governor's Aide, and Publicity Releases. The responsibilities of the Director of this Division are:

1. Recruit selection.
2. Recruit Training Schools.
3. In-Service Training Schools.
4. Specialized Training Schools.
5. Personnel Reports.
6. Release of general publicity.
7. Supervision of Firearms Division.
8. Supervision of Governor's Aide.

During the year, thirteen (13) men were recruited as Troopers, each receiving twenty-two (22) weeks of recruit training and upon completion being assigned to police duty. This brought the uniformed personnel to the authorized strength of 120 men.

One In-Service Training School was conducted in two sessions providing thirty-five (35) hours of classroom instruction for each man attending. Due to the jail break at the New Castle County Workhouse which occurred while the School was in session, only ninety-one (91) of the personnel were able to attend.

The regular State Police Instructional Staff was augmented by a number of well-known lecturers. Among them were: M. W. McFarlin, Special Agent in Charge, Baltimore Field Office, F. B. I.; Colonel J. James Ashton and J. D. Reeder of the Delaware Safety Council; Agent Charles B. Rich, U. S. Secret Service; Bernard M. Nobis, Superintendent, Ferris Industrial School; Colonel Edgar S. Stayer, Delaware Liquor Commission; George E. Grotz, Field Representative, National Safety Council; Vernon J. Goertz and Charles J. Foster, Special Agents, F. B. I.; Judge Elwood F. Melson, New Castle County Family Court; Colonel W. A. McWilliams, Chief Engineer, State Highway Department; Judge Ernest V. Keith, Juvenile Court, Kent and Sussex County; Elmer F. Cunningham, Managing Director, Journal-Every Evening, Wilmington; and Arley B. Magee, Jr., Attorney at Law.

The program was about evenly divided between criminal and traffic activity and was supplemented by a number of training films and slides.

A special school for the operation and care of Emergency Equipment was held in Dover during the summer months. The Emergency-Disaster Unit was thoroughly explained and demonstrated after which students were required to operate the various pieces of equipment. Eighty-three (83) men availed themselves of this training; the sessions lasting four (4) weeks with each man receiving a minimum of six (6) hours' instruction.

Training Statistics are as follows:

DISPOSITION OF APPLICATIONS

Rejected—Failed to meet qualifications	26
Rejected—Failed to pass examinations	11
Failed to report for examinations	2
Employed as Troopers.....	13
Active applications on file	36
Total Applicants	88

Recruit Training

Number of Schools Basic, 1; Advanced, 1	2
Number of men attending.....	13
Duration of sessions	22 wks.
Total hours training by instructors per man.....	492½
Total hours field and traffic training per man.....	453½
Number of examinations per man	17
Number of instructors	16

In-Service Training

Number of schools conducted	1
Number of men attending	91
Duration of sessions	2 wks.
Total hours training per man	35
Number of instructors	24
Number of examinations per man	1

Special Training

Emergency — Disaster Unit

Number of men attending.....	83
Duration of sessions	4 wks.
Total hours training per man	6
Number of instructors	1
Total hours of instruction.....	132

FIREARMS DIVISION

The purpose of the State Police Firearms Training Program is to make all personnel proficient in the use of the weapons provided by the Department for the protection of the public as well as the officers themselves.

Each month members of the Department are given instructions and practice in the use of machine guns and riot guns. The Service Revolver is fired monthly over the National Revolver and Pistol Course as well as the Practical Pistol Course. Individual scores are kept for each officer and from the data thus obtained faults are easily discerned and promptly corrected.

Every three months, the entire personnel is instructed in the use of the Resuscitator and approved methods of reviving victims of drowning and asphyxiation.

During the year, the Delaware State Police Pistol Team participated in matches held at Teaneck, New Jersey and Lower Merion, Pennsylvania.

By virtue of an agreement between the Delaware National Guard and the Delaware State Police, we have received permission to construct a new Pistol Range on the property of the National Guard near New Castle, Delaware. This Range will have sixteen (16) movable targets and a Practical Pistol Course. It is now under construction and will be completed in the Spring of 1950.

1949 AVERAGE SCORE OF TROOPS

	<u>Army L</u>	<u>Practical Pistol Course</u>
Headquarters	280	86.3
Troop '1'	267	82.2
Troop '2'	260	78.0
Troop '3'	258	76.3
Troop '4'	257	80.4
Troop '5'	259	76.0



GOVERNOR CARVEL SIGNS THE BILL CREATING THE RANK OF COLONEL AS SECRETARY OF STATE McDOWELL LOOKS ON

SAFETY EDUCATION

In every phase of traffic safety, education plays an essential part. People must be informed about State and municipal regulations; they must know good driving practices; they must be guided by the engineering features of the road; they must be aware of the needs of enforcement and the penalties for violations — in short, they must be educated. The motorist who is well-informed and possesses good driving skills and attitudes will have fewer accidents and require less police supervision; he becomes his own enforcement officer.

It is frequently said that no program, designed to minimize traffic tragedies, can hope to succeed without the support and full cooperation of the public. To meet these responsibilities, the State Police Department conducts activities in the interest of such special groups as pedestrians, drivers, bicyclists, elementary and secondary school pupils. The public needs to be continuously reminded that whatever is done in traffic should be done safely and with the maximum degree of purpose. There is no less care demanded of the pedestrian than of the driver or any other group of individuals who may use the streets and highways.

In line with the State Police educational program, 91 safety meetings were conducted in schools, civic groups, churches, and industrial plants, where approximately 7,000 persons were in attendance. Special holiday radio spot announcements were made by members of the Department calling attention to special hazards existing on these days of heavy traffic. Approximately 18,000 posters calling attention to new laws or unsafe practices were distributed to business places throughout the State. These posters are designed to educate the public in new laws before enforcement is started and to bring about voluntary compliance with the law.

SUPPLY DIVISION

The Supply Division, located at Headquarters, is under the direct supervision of the Executive Officer and is staffed by a Sergeant and one civilian clerk. The responsibilities of this Division are:

1. To procure and dispense all supplies and equipment used by the Department.

2. To inventory departmental equipment and keep records of such inventory.
3. To print and distribute, whenever practical, departmental forms and other printed matter.
4. To care for equipment assigned to Headquarters excepting firearms equipment.

Supplies are obtained in the field from approved requisitions which are filled from stock by the Supply Division. All decisions on the quantity and kind of reserve supplies are made by the Division and are based on the nature and extent to which they are used. By careful planning, waste is eliminated by purchasing only items of a type that are frequently used or essential.

The State Police Garage, located at Dover, is responsible for the maintenance of all State Police automotive equipment. It is staffed by six civilians, the chief mechanic and three mechanics being located at Dover, and a mechanic and apprentice located at State Road. This Subdivision is under the direct supervision of the Executive Officer.

The staff of mechanics at Dover service and maintain all the automotive equipment of Troops '3', '4', and '5'; whereas, the staff at State Road maintain the automotive equipment assigned to Headquarters and Troops '1' and '2'. All major repairs are made at the garage in Dover, as it is equipped to handle repairs of that nature. Minor repairs whenever practical, considering the transportation problem involved, urgency for immediate repair, etc., are made at the various Troops.

A strict system of preventive maintenance is maintained whereby each vehicle is inspected every 2,000 miles. This system has proved very satisfactory, as it keeps the equipment at peak efficiency and often precludes the necessity for major repairs. Likewise, an inspection of automotive equipment is made at each Troop every three months for the purpose of seeing that such equipment is being properly cared for.

The chief mechanic and the five men under his direction work a minimum of 262 man hours per week and are subject to call whenever the need for emergency repair exists.

As of December 31, 1949, there were 61 departmental cars in operation of which 59 were radio equipped. These cars were operated a total of 2,359,558 miles. The cost of replacement parts installed during the year totaled \$7,913.04.

Inspections are held every three months at which time all departmental buildings and equipment are thoroughly checked to ensure that all equipment is cared for properly.

During the past year the Department purchased two additional E. & J. Resuscitators, making a total of five ; each Troop having one for its exclusive use.